Mountain Weather Forecast

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Saturday 20 Jan 2024 until 23:59 on Sunday 21 Jan 2024

Forecast Issued on Friday 19 Jan 2024 at 15:26 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for changeable weather to continue over the next few days with a stormy spell of weather developing on Sunday.

Headline for Saturday 20 Jan 2024: Early sleet or snow then mainly dry and very windy. Rain and summit snow developing in the evening.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 20 Jan 2024

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Light snow	Cloudy	Cloudy	Sleet	Sleet
Precipitation probability							
40%	50%	50%	30%	20%	20%	30%	60%

Forecast for Saturday 20 Jan 2024

Weather: Snow expected during the early hours, this most widespread and heaviest across the west of the area. This will turn light and patchy by dawn to leave the rest of the day largely dry and cloudy. Rain, and higher summit snow, will spread from the west in the evening. Very windy.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40%, best chance in the afternoon across Monadhliath and the Cairngorms

Low cloud and visibility: Poor in areas of low cloud down to 700 to 1000 metres throughout the day, this most widespread first thing. Cloud tending to become more broken by the afternoon especially in the north of the area before becoming more extensive in the evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Forecast for Saturday 20 Jan 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	52/67 SW	52/67 SW	46/60 SW	46/60 SW	43/56 SW	45/59 S	50/67 S	48/65 S	41/55 S
900	48/59 SW	50/63 SW	46/57 S	41/52 SW	40/50 SW	43/55 S	49/63 S	46/61 S	41/54 S
600	32/44 SW	34/47 SW	31/44 SW	27/38 SW	26/37 SW	28/42 S	34/50 S	32/48 S	28/42 S
300	15/35 SW	18/40 SW	14/32 SW	13/32 SW	13/31 SW	17/38 S	20/44 S	20/44 S	18/39 S
Glen	7/31 SW	8/33 SW	7/29 SW	5/26 SW	5/25 SW	6/28 SW	6/31 S	7/33 S	6/28 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-4/-16	-4/-16	-4/-15	-3/-13	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-12	-3/-13	-3/-13
900	-1/-11	-1/-11	-0/-10	0/-8	1/-7	1/-8	1/-8	1/-8	0/-8
600	1/-7	1/-7	2/-6	2/-4	3/-3	3/-3	3/-4	3/-4	2/-5
300	2/-3	2/-3	2/-2	3/-2	4/0	5/0	5/-0	5/-0	4/-1
Glen	2/-4	2/-4	2/-3	3/-1	5/2	6/2	6/2	5/0	4/-0
Freezing Level*	600m	700m	700m	1000m	1000m	1100m	1100m	1000m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Note rising freezing levels through the day, this will lead to a thaw of some lying snow. Gale or severe gale summit winds, reaching 70 mph or more across the Cairngorm Plateau will lead to a risk of being blown over, and combined with poor visibility making progress will be difficult.

Forecast for Sunday 21 Jan 2024

Weather: Scattered snow showers, heavy at first, in the morning. Widespread rain, heavy at times, will extend northeastwards through the afternoon and be briefly preceded by summit snow. Wet and very windy conditions continuing into the evening.

Maximum wind: Southerly 35 mph gust 50 mph, this strengthening towards evening with gusts reaching 60 to 80 mph on the tops

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 60% in the morning, lowering to 30% in the afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Very good visibility in the morning outside of cloud and snow showers, some patchy cloud down to 800 metres. Poor visibility developing as low cloud arrives in the afternoon down to 700 metres although this may well be quite broken across the west of the area.

Temperature: **Glens:** 0 rising to 8 Celsius
At 800m: 0 Celsius
Freezing level: 800 metres rising to 2000 metres through the afternoon

Wednesday	Sleet or snow showers in the morning, then turning mainly dry in the afternoon. Freezing level falling back to 800 metres.

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